

## INCLUSIVE CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT PARTNERSHIPS

### Mount Wachusett Community College

- Ashburnham-Westminster Regional School District
- Fitchburg Public Schools
- Gardner Public Schools
- Leominster Public Schools
- Narragansett Regional Public Schools
- Ralph C. Mahar Regional Schools

### Bunker Hill Community College/Roxbury Community College

- Boston Public Schools
- Quincy Public Schools

### Bridgewater State University

- Bridgewater-Raynham Public Schools
- Brockton Public Schools
- Duxbury Public Schools
- Hanover Public Schools
- Hingham Public Schools
- Marshfield Public Schools
- North Attleboro Public Schools
- Rockland Public Schools
- Weymouth Public Schools
- Whitman-Hanson Public Schools

### Holyoke Community College

- Agawam Public Schools
- Monson Public Schools
- Northampton Public Schools
- South Hadley Public Schools
- Ware Public Schools
- Westfield Public Schools

### Quinsigamond Community College

- Berlin-Boylston Public Schools
- Leicester Public Schools
- Millbury Public Schools
- West Boylston Public Schools
- Worcester Public Schools

### MassBay Community College (Wellesley Hills Campus)

- Boston Public Schools
- Needham Public Schools
- Newton Public Schools

33 PUBLIC SCHOOLS • 7 INSTITUTIONS OF PUBLIC HIGHER EDUCATION • 180 STUDENTS

## Opportunities That Promote Innovative Transition, Postsecondary Education and Competitive Employment

### Students are learning to:

- Access inclusive postsecondary education courses and campus activities
- Use self-determination skills in adult settings
- Request accommodations
- Prepare for and secure competitive employment

### For more information, contact:

Mary E. Price  
Bridgewater State University  
Educator Resource & Enrichment Center  
A Division of The College of Education and Allied Studies  
(508) 531-2917 (office)  
mprice@bridgew.edu



## Inclusive Concurrent Enrollment Partnerships for Students with Severe Disabilities

Partnership Opportunities for Public High Schools and Institutions of Higher Education

*"Why college? Well, I have a lot of career ideas. Plus, I love to read and I like seeing people I know from the community"*

—Brian Heffernan



MASSACHUSETTS  
Department of  
Higher Education



# Inclusive Concurrent Enrollment Postsecondary Education Options for Students with Severe Disabilities

## OVERVIEW

The state-funded Inclusive Concurrent Enrollment grant program offers public high school students with severe disabilities, ages 18-22, who have not passed MCAS the opportunity to participate in inclusive college courses (credit or non-credit) to increase their school and work success. Preliminary research shows that students benefit academically and transition to young adulthood more readily when they have the opportunity to engage in all college-related activities (e.g., establishing new social networks, participating in campus-wide events, learning to use public transportation to and from campus, completing course assignments, obtaining employment) rather than staying at high school. Student participation in this grant program may be incorporated into a student's transition program, as determined through the school district's special education process. Grant activities include transition support to student participants and their families. In addition, public high school personnel involved in the grant program gain valuable knowledge about promising inclusive practices through technical assistance and trainings.

## PRIORITIES

Partnerships between public high schools and public institutions of higher education are designed to further develop the academic, social, functional, and employment skills of students with severe disabilities in order to improve their postschool success. Partnership programs provide opportunities for students to enroll in credit and non-credit courses and to participate in other college life activities. The partnerships also promote linkages to adult agencies and organizations, which assist students with their transition to post-secondary activities.

## HOW DO STUDENTS BENEFIT?

Student participants in the Inclusive Concurrent Enrollment grant program develop career-planning and employment skills, self-advocacy skills, and new life skills that will assist students in their post-secondary interests and activities. For example, students participate in:

- Person-centered planning
- College courses related to job interests
- Paid work and internships
- Independent living and independent travel

## HOW DO PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOLS AND INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION BENEFIT?

The Inclusive Concurrent Enrollment grant program encourages collaboration between public high school and institution of higher education personnel. Partnerships result in improved systems to better serve students with severe disabilities. In addition, personnel gain valuable knowledge about promising inclusive practices.

- Mentoring Activities
- Technical Assistance Support (by the Institute for Community Inclusion)
- Customized Trainings
- Evaluation Activities
- Partnership Meetings

## HOW ARE FAMILIES ENGAGED?

Partnership programs provide technical assistance and outreach to student participants and their families. Technical assistance and outreach opportunities include:

- Family Information Nights
- Consultation with Parent Liaisons
- Family Outreach by the Federation of Children with Special Needs

Partnerships also promote linkages to adult agencies and organizations, which assist students with post-secondary activities.

